

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Masculinity in Crisis in Premchand's *Nirmala*

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in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Arts in English

By

Chitra Bahadur Bist

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

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Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu
Central Department of English

Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Chitra Bahadur Bist has completed his thesis entitled, “Masculinity in Crisis in Premchand’s *Nirmala*” under my supervision. He carried out his research work. I hereby co-commend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

Mr. Raj Kumar Baral

Lecturer

Central Department of English

Date:

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Central Department of English

Approval Letter

This thesis titled Masculinity in Crisis in Premchand's *Nirmala* submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Mr. Chitra Bahadur Bist has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

Members of the Research Committee

External Examiner

Internal Examiner

Head of the Department

Date:

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Abstract

The present thesis entitled “Masculinity in Crisis in Premchand’s *Nirmala*” exposes the critical condition of masculine identity of most of the male characters in the novel. It also exposes the major causes and the consequences after the masculinity in crisis. Most of the male characters along with the protagonist Totaram, instead of confirming the male values, practices and traits, adopt and expose feminine traits. Their irrationality, immaturity, irresponsibility, poverty, timidity etc. are the major premises to prove their poor masculine power. They are no more authoritative, powerful and brave to correspond the masculine traits. They are so hopeless and desperate. The way in which they commit suicide and escape from the responsibilities by leaving their home are the strong evidences to show their timidity. Their irrationality, immaturity, and irresponsibility can be observed throughout the novel. Regarding all these weaknesses, this research discusses the prominent issue masculinity in crisis in the novel by Premchand.

Table of Contents

Page No.

Acknowledgements

Abstract

i.	Premchand, His work and New Notion of Masculinity in crisis	1
ii.	Masculinity in Crisis in Premchand's <i>Nirmala</i>	13
iii.	Urgency of Redefining of Conventional Masculinity	47

Work Cited